

# Comparative and Functional Genomics

A Special section of reviews from B $\mu$ G@S 2002: 1<sup>st</sup> Symposium of the Wellcome Trust  
Funded Multi-Collaborative Microbial Pathogen Microarray Facility

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The microbial pathogen microarray group, B $\mu$ G@S, was funded by The Wellcome Trust in 2001 under its Resources for Functional Genomics Initiative and is based at St. George's Hospital Medical School in London, UK. It has over 30 collaborating groups around the UK involved in both bacterial pathogenesis and data analysis. B $\mu$ G@S aims to construct whole genome glass slide microarrays for 12 bacterial pathogens in 2 years, and to supply these, and related training, to their collaborators for a further 3 years.

The meeting highlighted the collective progress made in the last year. Microarrays for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Haemophilus influenzae* and *Yersinia pestis*, among others, are already in use and most of the talks described the use of these arrays in comparative genomics and gene expression profiling studies. There was also a session covering the analysis of data from microarrays, which has been identified as a bottleneck in the use of microarrays by many groups.

